



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
CMC-MCRC

MAR 02 2006

WHITE LETTER NO. 03-06

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: All General Officers
All Commanding Officers
All Officers in Charge

Subj: ENLISTED TO OFFICER COMMISSIONING PROGRAMS

1. Enlisted Marines have long proven their ability to be successful officers. It is my intent that we continue to tap into this rich source of talent and increase commissioning opportunities for qualified enlisted Marines. The means to this end is through our "Grow Your Own" programs.

2. The Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP), Meritorious Commissioning Program (MCP), Reserve Enlisted Commissioning Program (RECP), and the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) are the mechanisms to transform young, hard-charging enlisted Marines into future officers of our Corps. The Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) and the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) also offer outstanding opportunities for enlisted Marines to receive a commission. More importantly, these programs provide an opportunity to further enhance the diversity of our officer corps. Diversity makes us stronger, improves unit cohesion, and enhances combat readiness.

3. Success of the "Grow Our Own" programs requires your full support. This is an investment in our future. I charge each of you to seek out, support, and guide those enlisted Marines with the potential to become officers to pursue a commission through the appropriate program.


M. W. Hagee